ABSTRACT

A table management method allowing efficient hash search
with suppressing the possibility of occurrence of rehashing is
disclosed. A MAC address table is divided into a plurality of
banks, which are simultaneously accessed according to a hash
5   output. Each of registered MAC addresses read out from
respective ones of the banks is compared to the input MAC address.
When a match is indicated by at least one comparison result,
the input MAC address is judged to have been registered in the
MAC address table. When no match is indicated by all comparison
10   results, the input MAC address is judged as a new MAC address.
If an available memory area is left in memory space of the banks
concurrently accessed according to the hash output, then the new
MAC address is registered in the available memory area.